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THE OBSERVATOR.

emarks on Mercurius Politicus. *The Maxim*, No Biſhop, no King, *Examined and Confuted.* *The* Country-man's *Remarks on that Maxim.*

From **Wednesday** November the 21ſt, to **Saturday** November the 24th, 1705.

untry-m. MAſter *Obſervator*, there are many things in the *Politick Mercury*, that are worthy of our Notice; for that Author puts the *Falſify* on us at every turn; you muſt watch him as a t does a *Mouſe*, and keep the Ignorant from his laws; he's *Miſrepreſenting* and *Miſleading*, that's is Deſign and End in every thing he does. But, laſter, at preſent pray let me have your Opinion this Maxim of King *James* I. *No Biſhop, no ing.* What would he have neither *Kings* nor iſhops? I don't underſtand him, nor what he eans by it at this Juncture.

Obſ. He means the ſame thing as ever he did, enflame the Nation, to amuſe the People with roundleſs *Fears* and *Jealouſies* of the *Churches anger*; in ſhort, to *bid Defiance* to the beſt of *Queens*, and the beſt of *Parliaments*. But I will how you what Idle frivolous ſtuff he Trumps up, s Bones of *Contention*, even in the Examination of this ſingle *Maxim*.

You cannot have a better Rule for Underſtanding this Maxim of King *James* I. than by Obſerving another Maxim he made uſe of in his Controverſies about Points of *Divinity*, *Diſtingue Tempora & eris bonus Theologus*, *Learn to diſtinguiſh the Times, and thou wilt be a good Divine.* From whence you may gather, that King *James*, and the *Clergy* of that time, were *Time-ſervers*, that they did not draw their Concluſion in *Divinity* from the *Scriptures*, but from the *Preſent Occurrences*, and the Poſture of Affairs in preſent view.

Honeſt *Country-man*, I muſt give you a whole Sermon on this Text, for I muſt leave neither you, nor the People in the dark; and therefore I muſt tell you, when King *James* Pronounc'd that falſe Maxim of *No Biſhop, no King*, the *High-Church* had began to Preach and Write for a new ſort of *King-Craft*, which that Prince had a mighty Inclination to; which was, *That all Kings were Abſolute, above all Law, and accountable to none but God Almighty himſelf.* And with this Doctrine he was ſo much intoxicated, that by a little *French* Application, he was become very Inclinable, if not to reſign, yet at leaſt to ſhare his Throne with his Mother, who was Dethron'd by the *States* of *Scotland*, for as weighty Reaſons, and ſome of 'em the very ſame for which his Grandſon, the late King *James*, was Dethron'd by both Nations at the time of the *Revolution*.

Now King *James* the Firſt knowing very well how uſeful *ſome* Biſhops were in his Time to promote *Arbitrary Power*, he became perfectly in Love with the Order, provided he might have the ſole Power of making them: And hence he coin'd another as laudable *Maxim*, viz. *That give him the making of the Judges and Biſhops, and he would make the Law and Goſpel to be what he pleaſed.*

But as to the *Maxim* it ſelf. No Prince in the World had ever more occaſion to know the *Falſehood* of it than King *James* the Firſt; for, not to mention his *Learning*, by which he muſt needs have known that there were *Kings*, throughout all the World, long before *Chriſtianity* was heard of, and by Conſequence *no Biſhops* in his Senſe; He alſo knew that in his *own* Kingdom, there was no ſuch thing as *Biſhops* till *Palladius* was ſent thither by Pope *Celeſtine*, tho' the whole Kingdom had been *Chriſtian* from the Days of *Tertullian* at leaſt, and all that while liv'd under *Kingly Government*.

But that which made the *Maxim* more intolerable from his Mouth, was, That the *Scots Preſbyterians*, who had no *Biſhops*, ſav'd him from thoſe that had Murder'd his Father, and Crown'd him in his Cradle, after they had Dethron'd his Mother; and when it was in their Power, either to have thrown off *Kingly Government*, as the *Dutch* did, or to have given their Crown to another Family, *who were of the Blood Royal*, and under whoſe Conduct they had been delivered from *Tyranny* and *Popery*: So that the *Maxim*, as it came from him, was not only *Falſe* but *Ungrateful*; for had not the *Preſbyterians Sav'd* and *Crown'd* him, he had never been *Man* or *King*.

But coming at laſt to *fall out* with the Church of *Scotland*, who would not let him paſs without ſome Reproof for *Banning* and *Swearing*; for entertaining ſome of the *Guiſian* Murtherers about him, that cut the Throats of the *Proteſtants* at the Maſſacre of *Paris*, and perſwaded him to take his Mother into a ſhare of the *Government* with him, he grew a Mortal Enemy to *Preſbytery*, becauſe it hindered him in the Proſecution of his *Arbitrary Deſigns*; and for this Reaſon does *High-Church* Rail at this Day againſt the *Diſſenters*, who, tho' they are admitted neither into Offices in *Church* or *State*, yet by their Influence at Elections they ſtill carry the Point, being joyn'd with the *Honeſt Engliſhmen* of the *Church*; ſo that the *High-Flyers* can never get their Ends, by making a Parliament that will make an Actual Surrender of the Crown to a *French Vice-Roy*, and a *French Government*.

'Tis eaſie to imagine whence theſe Clamours againſt the *Diſſenters* do ariſe at this time, and for what Reaſons this *Maxim* of King *James* is trump'd up, *No Biſhop, no King, No Biſhop, no Queen.* Very well, let the *Maxim* hold as they pleaſe, for we have a *better Queen* and *better Biſhops* than they can tell us of in any of the Reigns of *Paſſive-Obedience*; and if this Inconſiderable Number of Men are diſſatisfy'd, let 'em Pine and Fret, the Better and Major part of the Kingdom are ſatisfy'd.

I ſhall uſe no more Arguments againſt this *Silly Maxim*, but the following Matters of Fact, which demonſtrate its Falſehood to the higheſt Degree.

1. That

1. That the *Presbyterians*, of all the three Nations, oppos'd the *Trial* and *Murther* of King *Charles* the First.

2. The *Scots Presbyterians* immediately after his Death, Proclaim'd King *Charles* the Second, brought him Home to *Scotland*, and Crown'd him there.

3. The *Presbyterians* in *England* had the Principal Hand in his Restauration, and he himself own'd it in Parliament in *July*, 1660. in passing the Act of *Oblivion*; *That had it not been for the* Presbyterians *he had not been there.*

4. The *Presbyterians* in *Scotland* were the only Party that Enthroned King *William* and Queen *Mary* there, kept them on the Throne, during their Respective Lives; settled their Crown on the present Queen, and are the main Supporters of Her Majesties *Government* there at present.

5. To this we may add, the *French Calviniſts* were the Men (the *French Tyrant* has own'd it oftner than once) that kept him on the Throne. And the now King of *Prussia*, a *Presbyterian*, so good an Ally to Her Majesty, and whose Zeal for the Common Cause, and his Stedfastness in the Confederacy, which Her Majesty so lately commended from the Throne, has no *Protestant Bishops* in his whole Dominions, nor does he think them necessary to support his Crown.

Country-m. Master, this is as plain as the Nose in a Mans Face, and now I have heard what you have said on the Point, while you Smoak your Pipe, I will make a few *Country Observations* upon this Text.

Obs. Prithee do; but I Precaution thee to be *Mannerly*, especially to Crown'd Heads that the Fop-Writers ben't upon our Backs again, and that no *Monsieur Envoy* come againſt us, with a Second hand Complaint from the *Papists*.

Country-m. Oh Master, the *Papishes!* We'll deal well enough with the *Papishes* in a little time. But, Master, these *High-Flyers* are sly Dogs.

Obs. Look ye there now!

Country-m. 'Tis out; but if it be amiss, I'll speak to our Friend *John How* to mend it for me; I can't express my self *Beau-like.* What do they call those four-Leg'd Creatures that follow a false Scent? Some People call 'em *Hounds*; but an't those *Hounds Dogs?* Now these *High-Flying Hounds* follow a false Scent, and lead after 'em the pretty little Packs of *Beagles*, *Terriers*, *Blood-Hounds*, and *Fox-Hounds*, besides the little Cry of Yelping *Country Curs.*

Obs. Oh brave *Country-man!* Thou'lst make just such another Jobb of this, as *Lesley* did of his *Park*, and the *Deer-Stealers*; but before you are Mannerly.

Country-m. Woundy Mannerly, Master, I'll speak in *Querpo* —— We'll suppose *Lesley* to be *Fowler*, the deep-mouth'd *Hound* of the *Nonjurors*, he runs with his Pack after him a Hunting in King *Adams* Gardens of *Paradice*, after *Primogeniture* and *Hereditary Descent*; but his Design was to Hunt down our *Parliaments*, and to tell us, *That they had no Power in Settling the Succession to the Crown, or the Rights and Limitations thereof.*

Then there's *Ring-Wood Drake*, the *Politick Hound*, he Hunts after the *Jus Divinum*, in order to destroy *Revolution Principles*, and to let Us know, that we have lost our *Constitution* by having Queen *Ann* on the *Throne*. These are strange Creatures, that can't be content to run astray themselves, but must have others to follow them to *Perdition.*

But, Master, I find these People, these *Jacobite* Gentlemen (don't I speak Mannerly now Master?) do contrive to turn every *Maxim*, or *Sentence*, againſt the *Government.* For look'ye, Master, *No Bishop, no Queen.* D'ye mark me? That is plainly telling the Queen that She is no Queen of *Scots*, because She has no *Bishops* in *Scotland.* This I take to be the meaning of the *Politick Mercury*'s making his Sermon on this Text, *No Bishop, no King*, and nothing else.

And his Preaching upon this Text at this time has another, forgive me ye Men of *Words*, *Manners* and *Nonsense*, I was just going to say *Villanous Meaning* in it, which is, that our present *Bishops* are *Presbyterians*, God in Heaven Bless 'em; and that none but *High-Flyers* are fit to be *Bishops* of our *Church*; now we plainly see that they are the most unfit Men, and that a Queen of a *Peaceful Temper* and a *Hierachy* of *Moderate* and *Healing Principles*, are the best Guardians of the *English Liberties*, and the best Support of the *Protestant Church of England.*

Obs. Country-man, thou shalt turn *Observator* thy self, thou hast hit the Point very exactly. We have a *Good Queen*, and *Good Bishops*: Here's a good Health to the *Queen* and *Church of England.*

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